[Rao Bahadur A. Rengaswami Aiyar.]

41. *Extension of the Public Offices, South Wing.*—A provision of Rs 1·50 lakhs has been matde in the budget estimates for the next year, but it is likely hat this wok will be abandoned and other arrangements made. Ther question is under the consideration of Government.

42. Government have sanctioned the purchase from the K. D. H. P. Co., Ltd., Munnar, of the bridge near their headquarters Office at Munnar and also the $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles of road lying between Nallathanni bridge and the Pallivasal Factory at a price of Rs 1 lakh subject to certain conditions. Provision has been made for this purchase under Capital in the next year's budget.

43. *Government Mint.*—A provision of Rs 30,000 has been made under Capital for the substitution of electric driven machines for the hand driven pressing machines in the Government Mint with a view to avoid the delay which occurs at present in the manufacture of copper coins.

44. *Survey of Minor Circuits.*—There are at present large tracts of unsurveyed minor circuits in the State covering an extent of more than two lakhs of acres, of which about 40,000 acres are already under occupation but not registered. The State is thereby losing considerable capital receipts and recurring revenue. It is now proposed to conduct the survey of such minor circuits in seven of the taluks and complete it in two years. A provision of Rs 71,200 is made for the next year for the above purpose under the capital head "Survey of Minor Circuits," as the expenditure incurred is expected to be more than fully recouped by the capital receipts accruing from the scheme. It is expected that the survey and registry of the lands now under occupation would bring in a capital revenue of about Rs 10 lakhs as *tharavila*, besides a recurring assessment of about Rs 40,000 per annum and about Rs 2 lakhs under arrears of assessment.

45. *Railways.* The capital at charge for the Quilon-Trivandrum Railway at the close of the year ending 30th September 1936 was Bh. Rs 53·58 lakhs. A provision of Rs 44,100 has been made for capital works during 1113. The total capital expenditure on the Chackay-Thampanoor Railway Extension at the close of 1112 will stand at Rs 28·04 lakhs. The budget estimate for 1113 provides for a sum of Rs 31,300 mainly to meet payments on account of land acquisition charges anticipated to be decreed by the courts. The South Indian

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Railway Administration is now working the Extension as a part of the Travancore Railway. The agreement between the Secretary of State and this Government for the working of this branch has not yet been drawn up pending settlement of certain details. The question is now under consideration.

The working of the Railway entailed a loss of Bh. Rs 69,652 for the year ending 31st March 1937 representing the deficit in the interest guaranteed by the Government. The receipts from the Railway are expected to be better in 1113 as there has been some increase in Railway earnings throughout India. Nevertheless, a sum of Rs 50,000 has been provided for 1113 also, as the probable loss to be met by Government. I may mention here that the Government of India have accepted our contention that the loss in the working of the Travancore Railway should be apportioned between the Government of India and this Government in proportion to the Capital outlay incurred on British and Indian State Sections of the Tinnevelly-Quilon line alone, excluding the outlay on the extension to Trivandrum which was financed by this State.

The Government of India have also agreed to the association of an officer of this Government with the Government Examiner of Accounts at Trichinopoly for the audit of the accounts of the Travancore Railway. A lump sum provision of Rs 3,000 has been made in the budget under the Revenue head, "General Administration—Financial Secretariat", for this purpose.

COMMERCIAL UNDERTAKINGS.

46. *Pallivasal Hydro-Electric Project.*—The progress anticipated last year in regard to this project has not been realised due to some difficulties encountered during construction with regard to the foundation of the terminal anchor of the penstocks, and to the disturbances of the ground adjoining the power house which became manifest during the monsoon last year, and which have been fully adverted to in the proceedings of this House. As, at the time when the machinery was being installed in the power house, some cracks developed in the building, it was not considered safe to instal the heavy machinery, etc., in the existing building. A fresh site has accordingly been chosen and it is hoped to complete the levelling of site and excavation of foundation for the new power house before the close of the year. All civil works connected with the Project

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